

REMARKS

Entry of this Amendment will place the Application in better condition for allowance, or at the least, narrow any issues for an appeal. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment is appropriate and is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is thanked for indicating the allowability of the subject matter of claims 1-20 and 22.

Claim 21 has been cancelled without prejudice.

Claim 22 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 21 as requested.

Claims 1-5, 7, 12-16 and 20 have been amended to improve readability and better comply with claim requirements without making any substantive changes in scope.

New Claims 24-44 have been added. They are In re Beauregard versions of corresponding claims 1-20, 22.


New Claims 45-65 have also been added. They are means plus function versions of corresponding Claims 1-20, 22. The new claims are all allowable because the claims that they correspond to are allowable.

It is believed that all claims are now in condition for allowance as the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of Claim 21 is rendered moot by its cancellation.

In view of the foregoing, consideration and an early allowance of this application are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
D'ALESSANDRO & RITCHIE

Dated: September 14, 2000



David B. Ritchie
Reg. No. 31,562

D'Alessandro & Ritchie
P.O. Box 640640
San Jose, CA 95164-0640
(408) 441-1100